



Teacher's Activity and Curriculum Guide

Fort Kearny State Recreation Area
May 7 & 8, 2015



January 13, 2015

Dear Educators,

On behalf of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, you are invited to attend the Fort Kearny Outdoor Expo – Outdoor Discovery Program on either **Thursday, May 7 or Friday, May 8** from **9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at Fort Kearny State Recreation Area. The free educational event is designed for fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students.

We offer more than 40 diverse hands-on activities and demonstrations that make the Fort Kearny Outdoor Expo a memorable experience! We strive to have youth take their first steps into the outdoors or expand their current level of participation. This is a great opportunity to endorse physical outdoor activities before summer break. In addition, presentations will incorporate state academic standards, relating classroom concepts to real life experience. The event strives to achieve the following objectives.

Objectives:

- Provide **hands-on** programs so all youth, novice or experienced, have the opportunity to explore new outdoor activities, recreational possibilities and learn new outdoor skills.
- Enhance their **knowledge and ethical understanding** of wildlife and the outdoor atmosphere.
- Encourage **health and wellness** to students by promoting active outdoor lifestyles.
- Correlate activities with **Nebraska State Standards** in the areas of science, math, history, reading, and writing.
- Engage students in **fun interactive** activities in the areas of wildlife/habitat management, natural resource use, Nebraska History, shooting sports, hunting skills, aquatic knowledge and fishing skills, and camping and recreation.

ACTIVITY SPECIFICS: Students will be organized by classroom; teachers and chaperones will accompany all student groups. There will be 12 minutes between each session for a break and to travel to the next activity. The day consists of five – 40 minutes sessions.

REGISTRATION: Teachers may begin registering starting **February 5, 2015 at 7:00 a.m.** This process will allow teachers to select all five activities. Registration is based on first come first serve. Registration instructions will only be sent to school that have previous attended. Contact Julia Plugge if this will be your first year to the program. Please receive administrative and parent approval of your activity list prior to registering. After registration is completed, all activities changes must be made with in two weeks of the event. Due to the nature of the event it is difficult to make last minute changes.

Visit the website for additional information www.outdoornebraska.ne.gov/odp

If you have any questions, please contact:

Julia Plugge
(402) 471-6009
julia.plugge@nebraska.gov

Sincerely,

Julia Plugge
Event Coordinator & Outdoor Education Specialist
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

2015 Scholastic Student Activities

Read before registering

Activities are subject to change as a result of low registration or last minute cancelations. If this occurs, you may be placed in an activity due to limited availability. Teachers will be notified of any changes following registration.

After registration is completed, all activities changes must be made within two weeks of the event. Due to the nature of the event it is difficult to make last minute changes.

If your students attended last year, do not register them for the same activities this year. Please provide your students the opportunity to learn different skills.

Please follow the limit per activity area. As an example a class can only do two "Fishing Experience" activities. If a class registers over the limit, they will be assigned to an activity still available at the end of registration.

*New in 2015

"Fishy Experience" Activities (A class is limited to two activities in this category)

Fish Anatomy and Artworks

Grades: All

Fish species are all different; learn how to identify several fish species by looking at their external anatomy and adaptations. Students will also make fish artwork with real or replica fish. Newsprint will be used for the artwork but students are encouraged to bring t-shirts, handkerchiefs or fabric if they can.

Science Standard

5.3.1; 5.3.1.b

Fishing Basics

Grades: All

Fishing is an easy and fun activity that anyone can do with some basic equipment. Students will get to do catch and release fishing using closed-face reels, bobbers, hooks, worms, or corn to catch fish. Instructions and support will be available for students who need it.

PE Literacy:

5.1.1; 5.5.1

⚙ **Special Note:** Due to high demand 2 classes will register for this activity per session.

Fish, Turtles and Other Aquatic Organisms

Grades: All

A variety of live fish, turtles, amphibians and other aquatic organisms commonly found in Nebraska will be on display. Students will be taught basic identification characteristics of the different organisms including general external anatomy features. Brief life histories will be taught to give students a better understanding of the species on display. Students will be taught safe handling practices and will be encouraged to touch and handle the organisms on display.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 5.3.1.b

⚙ **Special Note:** Due to high demand 2 classes will register for this activity per session.



Bow Fishing

Grades: All

Fishing through the use of archery equipment (bow and arrow) is an ancient technique that is still very popular today. Students will learn about the history of bow fishing and will be instructed about the safe and ethical use of bows and arrows for fishing. Students will then be introduced to modern equipment, taught proper shooting techniques, and allowed to practice shooting at targets placed in a water environment.

PE Literacy:	5.1.1
Responsible Behavior:	5.5.1
History Standards:	8.1; 8.1.5

Fly Fishing and Fly Tying

Grade: 5 & 6

Students will learn how to use a fly rod and learn about the types of flies that are used in fly fishing. This activity also covers types of aquatic insects that fish eat and how the tied flies mimic them to attract fish.

Science Standards:	8.4.4
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⚙ **Special Note:** Due to limited water space students will only be casting on land.

Lake Life

Grades: All

Students will be instructed in basic lake natural science and introduced to components that are important in a lake ecosystem. Students will then be allowed to explore samples of animals (invertebrates, zoo-plankton, fish, etc.) and plants (algae and water plants) with the guidance of illustrations, microscopes and prepared samples. Students will be briefly instructed in what a fish is and focus on physical characteristics that are unique to fish.

Science Standards:	5.3.1; 5.3.3; 5.3.3b; 5.3.3c
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Math Standards:	8.4; 8.4.3
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“Archery” Activities

(A class is limited to one activity in this category)

National Archery in the Schools Program

Grades: All

Learn and participate in the National Archery in the Schools Program, identifying the basic concepts of the many shooting sports found in Nebraska such as the Junior Olympic Archery Development curriculum. Students will participate in Junior Olympic Target-Style Archery.

Science Standards:	5.2.2; 8.2.2
PE Skill:	5.1.2
Responsible Behavior:	5.5.1

⚙ **Special Note:** Due to high demand 2-3 classes will register for this activity per session.

3-D Archery

Grades: All

Learn the historical developments of one of the most useful tools of our time, the bow and arrow. Learn the skills necessary to hunt wild game with this unique tool. Students will use archery equipment to perform and analyze experiments.

History Standards:	8.1.5
Science Standards	5.2.2; 8.2.2
PE Skill:	5.1.2; 5.5.1

⚙ **Special Note:** Due to high demand 2-3 classes will register for this activity per session.

“Shooting Sports” Activities

(A class is limited to one activity in this category)

Air Rifles

Grades: All

Learn basic marksmanship and safety while participating in a structured air gun shooting activity. Learn shooting sports opportunities available in Nebraska including the Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Programs in the area and how parents can get their children involved. The meaning of velocity and energy and how it relates to shooting will be discussed, along with a challenge activity converting units of measurement.



Science Standards:	5.2.2; 8.2.2
Math Standards:	8.3.2
PE Skill:	5.1.2; 5.2.1; 5.5.1

Shotguns

Grades: 5 & 6

Perform experiments as you determine, through experience, scientific principles associated with moving objects, energy and sound. Students will have the opportunity to participate in shotgun shooting sports activities under the guidance of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Hunters Education and Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Instructors.

Science Standards:	5.2.2; 8.2.2
PE Skill:	5.1.2; 5.2.1; 5.5.1

⚙ **Special Note:** Due to high demand 2 classes will register for this activity per session.

Turkey Talk – Jakes Takes Aim

Take aim with the Turkey Federation's inflatable bb gun shooting range. Students will also discover Nebraska's native Wild Turkey species and learn turkey calling, turkey characteristics and turkey habitat.

Science Standards:	5.3.1; 5.3.2; 5.3.4
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Slingshots

Grades: All

Practice your marksmanship the old fashion way. Students will learn how to effectively and safely use a slingshot.

Science Standards:	5.2.2; 8.2.2
PE Skill:	5.1.2; 5.2.1; 5.5.1

“Watchable Wildlife” Activities

(A class is limited to two activities in this category)

Raptors of Nebraska

Grades: All

Students will meet live, non-releasable Native Nebraska raptors while learning about their hunting skills, habitats, and other facts. Touch artifacts and hear the actual calls of these amazing birds of prey.

Science Standards:	5.3.1; 5.3.2; 8.3.1.e
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*Feather and Versus

Presented by: Bill Clemente, Nebraska Humanities Council

Students will combine creative writing, drawing and journaling with bird watching. The young writers will use a variety of poetic devices, from personification to metaphor as they listen and watch birds

Snakes of Nebraska

Grades: All

Dispel negative first impressions that kids and adults assume when exposed to scary critters (snakes). Students learn first-hand about the snakes of Nebraska including life history, adaptations, form and function, as well as services snakes provide to humans and predator/prey relationships. Live snakes will be met during this activity.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 5.3.2; 8.3.1.e

Nature and Bird Watching Hike

Grades: All

Watching birds is one of the easiest ways for people of all ages to enjoy nature. This workshop will start off with a discussion of bird watching techniques and how to properly use binoculars. The students will then put their knowledge to use on our birding trail.

Science Standards:

5.3.1

“Outdoor Recreation” Activities

(A class is limited to three activities in this category)

Go take a Hike

Grades: All

Hiking is a great outdoor physical activity. As a team, students will pack a backpack for hike, learning the necessary “pack-it items”. They will also learn how to properly pack the bag distributing items for a comfortable hike.

PE Skill:

5.3.1

Camping Nebraska’s State Parks System

Grades: All

Students will learn about Nebraska’s State Park System. We will discuss how the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is able to use the unique natural resources of each region to develop state parks and provide programming based on the natural offerings. In addition, students will participate in a hands-on activity to set up and take down a tent. Discussion will take place on how to set up a safe and enjoyable campsite, campfire skills and different types of camping opportunities.

No Fire – No Smore!

Grades: All

Camping is not complete without smores. A smore is not complete without a fire. Students will learn the skill of building a safe productive campfire so in the end they can make that perfect yummy smore. As a team, students will construct a fire, while learning the different components. The activity will also focus on campfire equipment. This activity will strongly enforce safety around campfires.

ATVs and Youth

From backyards to fields, youth are operating all-terrain vehicles. ATVS are fun – but also very dangerous.

Through demonstration, certified instructors from the Nebraska Safety Center will teach students how to develop safe riding techniques, how to avoid injury and teach basic ATV operation. Students will not drive ATVs in this activity.

Campfire Cooking

Grades: All

Outdoor cooking is a fun, easy and tasty activity for youth of all ages. Students will be the chief preparing a variety of yummy recipes they are sure to enjoy. While cooking, students will learn safety steps when preparing and handing food. In addition they will learn the nutrition.

Boating Safety and Kayaking

Grades: 5&6

Introduce students to a basic easy to use kayak. Participate in a safety talk emphasizing the importance and proper wear of life jackets. Students will learn the safe use of kayaks, basic paddle strokes, and safe kayak loading and unloading. Students may get wet.

Science Standards:

5.2.2.b; 8.2.c

PE Skill:

5.1.3; 5.4.2



Geocaching: Find the Fun

Grades: All

Students will go on a scavenger hunt using GPS units to discover the basic needs of some Nebraska wildlife species. The activity will include learning about GPS and Geocaching.

Science Standards:

5.1.1; 8.1.1

PE Skills:

5.3.1; 5.5.2; 8.3.2; 8.4.3; 8.5.1

“Go Wild with Wildlife” Activities

(No limit)

Habitat = Home!

Grades: All

Learn the meaning of conservation, habitat management, how human activities may affect wildlife and the environment, and when these activities are beneficial or detrimental. Examine grasses, forbs, trees and shrubs that are beneficial to wildlife.

Science Standards:

5.3.3; 5.3.4; 8.3.4.b

Duck – Duck – GOOSE – Nebraska Waterfowl

Grades: All

Identify waterfowl species of Nebraska and how they are important to our state. Where do we see waterfowl in Nebraska? Students will develop an understanding of migration and how Nebraska is an important stop for the birds during the migration season. In addition, learn how to set up a waterfowl blind, decoy spread, call ducks and geese, and use a dog for waterfowl hunting.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 8.3.4

CSI (Critter Scene Investigation)

Grades: All

Students will look for and identify clues left behind by wildlife and then investigate in teams to unravel the mystery of what happened at the critter scene.

Science Standards:

5.3.3; 5.3.4; 8.1.1; 8.1.2; 8.3.3; 8.3.4

Language Arts Standards:

4.1.5; 4.3.1; 4.3.2; 5.1.5; 5.3.1; 5.3.2; 6.1.5; 6.3.1; 6.3.2;
7.1.5; 7.3.1; 7.3.2

Math Standards:

4.2.5; 5.2.5; 6.2.5

*The Voice

Grades: All

The Voice, the strongest “callers” in Nebraska compete with help from Nebraska Game and Park’s coaches. Students will learn about various game calls, why we call in wild game, and how to use them in a fun and mildly competitive atmosphere. This interactive and exciting activity will combine elements from the popular TV show The Voice. Will your call make it to the next knockout round.

Science Standards:

5.3.1.e

Trapping, It's Catching On!

Grades: All

Students/participants will have "hands on" training while learning about Nebraska's furbearers using tanned animal pelts of many of Nebraska's 13 furbearing animal species. Students will be challenged to learn and identify the species of animals from casted tracks, animal skulls and their scat. The students will learn some basic biology, and the types of habitats these furbearing species live; lowland croplands, around marshes and near our rivers and streams. We plan to have an indoor tent where we will teach regulations and laws pertaining to legal trapping methods and touch briefly on the history of the fur trapping industry. An outdoor field classroom will be adjacent to the tent where we will demonstrate on the ground and in the water proper use of legal traps, show various trapping techniques and trap sets used in today's modern wildlife management.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 8.3.4

Squirrels, Coyotes and Pheasants – Oh My!

Grades: All

In town or country, small animals live all around us. Students will identify Nebraska's small game animals species and discover habitat where they can be found. They will be excited to learn that many are not far from their home. They will also participate in methods to hunt small and upland game. Learn the proper gear and attire for hunting.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 8.3.4

Deer, Antelope, Turkeys – Oh My!

Grades: All

Deer are not the only large wild animal in Nebraska. Students will have a fun learning experience touching pelts, horns, and mounts of large wildlife animals. In addition, they will learn the types of equipment used for big game hunting and discuss hunter safety, hunter orange and hunting laws.

Science Standards:

5.3.1; 8.3.4

"Miscellaneous" Activities

(No limit)

Dog Training

Grades: All

Discover the techniques involved with training hunting dogs. In addition, students will learn the proper techniques in caring for dogs. Actual dog demonstrations will be given.

Science Standards:

5.3.2.a; 8.3.1.e

Outdoor Photography

Grades: All

Discover the outdoors from a camera's point of view. Learn to frame, focus and understand your surroundings to create a fabulous photo. Digital cameras will be provided to use for the event, and photos will be sent on a DVD to the participating classes.

Nebraska Ground and Surface Water Resources

Grades: All

A large scale water model will be used to explain ground water existence and what an aquifer may look like and demonstrate groundwater surface water interaction, water movement in soils, ground water and surface water contamination concerns, groundwater monitoring, and artesian water flow. In addition, Tri-Basin NRD will use their stream flow model to demonstrate basic surface water hydrology and the development of stream systems.

Science Standards:

8.4.2.g

Buckskinning/Muzzleloading

Grades: All

Hunting and trapping helped spur the westward expansion of our country. Students will explore one of the tools our frontier ancestors relied on in their day to day lives – the muzzleloading firearm. Participants will learn about the different systems that these historic tools rely on to perform work and how even today these firearms are still being used.

Social Studies/History Standards:

4.1.1; 4.1.

Fire Safety in the Outdoors

Grades: All

The State Fire Marshals' Office will provide an interactive presentation utilizing the Fire Marshals' Simulator Trailer to teach elements of Fire Prevention and Fire Safety related to issues that may be experienced in a recreational vehicle, or a home setting. During the two part presentation, students will learn how to recognize and eliminate fire hazards, and will be provided the opportunity to practice proper fire escape technique in a simulated atmosphere utilizing theatrical smoke.

***Rocky Mountain Specialists Pack String**

Grades: All

The Rocky Mountain Regional Specialty Pack String assists in managing and maintaining wilderness and back country areas using traditional animal packing livestock skills. The string goes where vehicles are unable to travel. With 9- mules and 4-horses we cover 17 National Forests and 7 National Grasslands. Meet the horses and find out how the pack string is used in Nebraska.

